

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 08856 050441Z

17

ACTION ORM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 SSO-00 AID-20 IGA-02

L-03 RSC-01 DRC-01 ( ISO ) W  
----- 015287

O R 050300Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6455

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 8856

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF AORG (UNHCR) VS LA CB

SUBJECT: RELIEF ASSISTANCE INDOCHINA-UNHCR

REF: A) GENEVA 4126; B) STATE 141735; C) STATE 144009

1. WE ARE VERY PLEASED WITH PROSPECT OF INCREASED UNHCR OVER-ALL ROLE IN INDOCHINA AND CONTRIBUTION TO RELIEF ASSISTANCE AND ARE READY TO COOPERATE AS MAY BE DESIRED BY UNHCR AND GVN IN IMPLEMENTING THESE PLANS AS FAR AS RVN IS CONCERNED. WE DO, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THE AMOUNT PROPOSED TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE GVN IS GROSSLY DISPROPORTIONATE ON ANY RELEVANT SET OF REASONABLY DISPASSIONATE, OBJECTIVE AND JUST CRITERIA - POPULATION (ACTUAL, NOT CLAIMED), ACTUAL NEED, OR WHOSE CONTINUING MILITARY AGGRESSION HAS CREATED AND IS PERPETUATING THE PROBLEM. SINCE THE SITE (QUANG TRI) OF UNCHR'S PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN THE SO-CALLED "PRG" HAS BEEN TOTALLY INCORPORATED WITHIN THE DRV GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE, THE ACTUAL DIVISION IS \$4 MILLION FOR THE GVN AND \$5.5 MILLION FOR THE DRV. WE WILL DISCUSS THIS BELOW.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT MACE'S ATTENTION SHOULD BE DRAWN TO FACT THAT UNHCR HAS SIDESTEPED ISSUE OF KHMER REFUGEES IN VIET-NAM. MACE WAS INFORMED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DAN AND USAID OFFICIALS THAT 30,000 KHMER REFUGEES CURRENTLY ARE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 08856 050441Z

IN CAMPS IN VIET-NAM AND THAT THEIR MONTHLY FOOD COSTS ARE

APPROXIMATELY \$170,000. IN DISCUSSION WITH MACE IT SHOULD BE URGED THAT ANNUAL FOOD COSTS FOR KHMER REFUGEES OF APPROXIMATELY \$2 MILLION BE PROVIDED IN AGREEMENT. THIS MONEY WOULD BE CHanneled THROUGH VIETNAMESE RED CROSS WHICH IS SAME PROCEDURE AS THAT PROPOSED FOR RESETTLEMENT ACTIVITIES.

3. MISSION ALSO SUGGESTS MACE VISIT IS GOOD OCCASION TO RAISE WITH HIM ONE OTHER URGENT PROBLEM. FOLLOWING THE RECEIPT OF \$100,000 FROM THE UNHCR THE VIETNAMESE RED CROSS (VRC) ASSUMED THE RESPONSIBILITY IN MAY 1974 OF PROVIDING THE FOOD RATIONS TO 10,000 KHMER REFUGEES AT THE KHMER VIETNAMESE BORDER NEAR TAY NINH. THE \$100,000 HAS NOW BEEN FULLY UTILIZED AND A SECOND \$100,000 INCREMENT PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO BY THE UNHCR HAS NOT YET REACHED SAIGON. DEPUTY UNHCR CHARLES MACE ASSURED VRC DURING HIS VISIT TO VIET-NAM THAT SECOND INCREMENT WOULD REACH SAIGON BEFORE END OF JUNE. IN VIEW CONTINUING NEEDS OF CAMBODIAN REFUGEES GVN MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE ON JULY 3 INSTRUCTED TAY NINH PROVINCIAL SERVICE TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROVIDING FOOD RATIONS TO REFUGEES. AT EARLY POINT IN YOUR MEETINGS MACE SHOULD BE ADVISED OF ABOVE SITUATION AND INFORMED THAT MISSION BELIEVES IT IMPERATIVE THAT SECOND \$100,000 INCREMENT BE SENT IMMEDIATELY TO VRC. (FYI: VRC HAS RECEIVED \$120,000 FROM IOG FOR PERIOD APRIL- JULY BUT DUE TO EXTENSIVE EMERGENCY NEEDS CAUSED BY RECENT MILITARY ACTIONS PRIMARILY IN GVN MR-3 AND MR-2 FUNDS HAVE BEEN DEPLETED.)

4. REF C) SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS OUR COMMENTS ON PARAS 28 THROUGH 34 OF REF A. THE CLAIM THAT THE SO-CALLED "PRG" HAS "SOME 2 MILLION REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN AREAS UNDER ITS CONTROL" IS LUDICROUS ON ITS FACE. THE SO-CALLED "PRG" HAS NEVER CLAIMED MORE THAN 12 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION OF SOUTH VIET-NAM TO BE UNDER ITS CONTROL. THE DEPARTMENT IN ITS MOST LIBERAL ESTIMATES DOES NOT EXCEED 5 PERCENT. AND FROM ALL AVAILABLE EVIDENCE TO THIS MISSION WE WOULD PLACE THE CORRECT ESTIMATE TO BE SLIGHTLY UNDER ONE PERCENT. IF THE SO-CALLED "PRG" FIGURES OF 12 PERCENT WERE ACCEPTED AS ACCURATE THEY INCLUDE AS "REFUGEES AND DISPLACED" PERSONS MORE THAN THEIR OWN ESTIMATE OF THEIR ENTIRE POPULATION. IF WE USE DEPARTMENT ESTIMATE, THEN THE "PRG" FIGURES FOR REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IS MORE THAN DOUBLE THE POPULATION. IF THE CORRECT FIGURE OF LESS THAN ONE PERCENT IS USED, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 SAIGON 08856 050441Z

REACH THE "PRG" FIGURE OF 2 MILLION EVEN BY INCLUDING MIGRATORY WILD FOWL IN THE TOTAL. THIS MAY BE IRRELEVANT EXCEPT AS THESE INFLATED CLAIMS ARE USED TO FIRMLY ESTABLISH AN INACCURATE STATISTICAL BASE FOR JUSTIFYING DISPROPORTIONATE ALLOCATION OF SCARCE RESOURCES.

5. WE NOTE CLEVERNESS OF CAREFULLY WORDED INITIAL LIMITAION OF UNHCR ASSISTANCE TO ABOUT 20,000 FAMILIES IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE. BUT

THIS TOO MAY BE IRRELEVANT SINCE IT IS CLEAR TO US THAT PRESENT AMERICAN STATUTORY PROVISIONS PROHIBITING EXTENSION OF AID TO NORTH VIET-NAM EFFECTIVELY PROHIBITS USE OF ANY AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS IN AN AREA WHICH, AS HAS THAT PORTION OF QUANG TRI PROVINCE HELD BY NVN FORCES, HAS BEEN TOTALLY INCORPORATED INTO THE GOVERNMENTAL ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE OF NORTH VIET-NAM. THIS INTEGRATION IS SO COMPLETE THAT BOTH THE DRV AND THE SO-CALLED "PRG" MAKE LITTLE EFFORT TO HIDE IT, ALTHOUGH FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD IT IS STILL PRESENTED AS "PRG" TERRITORY. WE ASSUME UNHCR WILL USE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OTHER DONORS FOR DRV/"PRG" PORTION OF ITS PROPOSED EXPANDED PROGRAM.

6. THIS BRINGS US TO A POINT OF CONCERN WHICH WE BELIEVE SHOULD BE MADE VERY CLEAR TO MACE. THAT IS, THAT WHILE WE WELCOME UNHCR GREATER PARTICIPATION IN INDOCHINA, WE SHALL VIGOROUSLY OPPOSE THE MANIPULATION OF THE HIGH HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES OF UNHCR TO FACILITATE THE INTENSIVE DRV/"PRG" CAMPAIGN TO SECURE RECOGNITION AS A SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENT BY ANY UN AGENCY. WE NOTE, FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE PENULTIMATE SENTENCE OF PARA 28, REF B, OF UNHCR STATEMENT BEGINS "ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENT....." IN PLACE OF THE MORE ACCEPTABLE FORMULATION "ACCORDING TO REQUESTING PARTY....." THIS SERVES TO ILLUSTRATE THE DIFFICULTIES THE UNHCR WILL FACE IN THE FORMULATION OF THE IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENTS MENTIONED IN PARA 8, REF B.

7. WE ALSO NOTE WITH SOME INTEREST PARA 33 OF REF B WHICH REFERS TO CONCRETE FOUNDATION FOR HOUSING. WE ASSUME FROM REST OF PARAGRAPH THAT CEMENT IS NOT ONE OF ITEMS TO BE PROVIDED THROUGH UNHCR WHICH REASSURES US THAT UNHCR FURNISHED CONCRETE WILL NOT BE DIVERTED INTO MILITARY USES.

8. TO RECAPITULATE: WE SINCERELY WELCOME EXPANSION OF UNHCR ACTIVITIES ON INDOCHINA WIDE BASIS AND HOPE IN FORTHCOMING TALKS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 SAIGON 08856 050441Z

MACE CAN BE REMINDED OF NECESSITY TO FULFILL PAST COMMITMENTS TO GVN. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT USG IS PROHIBITED BY EXISTING STATUTE FROM CONTRIBUTING TO PROPOSED DRV \$5.5 MILLION PROGRAM (INCLUDING \$2.5 MILLION PORTION FOR QUANG TRI WHICH HAS BEEN INCORPORATED WITHIN DRV GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE). THEREFORE, OUR PRIMARY INTEREST SHOULD BE TO INSURE THAT MACE CLEARLY INFORMED THAT IN EXTENDING AID TO SO-CALLED "PRG" AREAS, GREAT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN NOT TO FACILITATE DRV/"PRG" CAMPAIGN FOR RECOGNITION OF SO-CALLED "PRG" AS LEGITIMATE, SOVEREIGN STATE WHICH IT IS NOT. MACE SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT USG WILL COOPERATE FULLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO GIVE ANY REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN THE PROPER EXECUTION OF ITS PROGRAMS WITHIN SVN.  
MARTIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, REFUGEE RELIEF, EXPENDITURES, HUMAN RIGHTS, INFLATION, FUND ALLOTMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SAIGON08856  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740178-0354  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740772/aaaacjxc.tel  
**Line Count:** 167  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ORM  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A) GENEVA 4126; B) STATE 141735; C), STATE 144009  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by shawdg>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RELIEF ASSISTANCE INDOCHINA-UNHCR  
**TAGS:** SREF, AORG, VS, LA, CB, UNHCR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005